

SOMERVILLE BICYCLE COMMITTEE

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Police Jim Hodgdon
Traffic & Parking Todd Blake
OHCD Tuck O'Brien
Mayor's Office Heather Rowe
Alderman Sean O'Donovan
Dept. Public Works David Dow

MEETING MINUTES Meeting held November 18, 2003

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AGENDA City Report, Greg Hill, Groundworks, Tour de Somerville, Education Subcommittee, Announcements

ATTENDEES Asher Miller Ron Newman Greg Palmer Turil Cronburg
Alan Moore Tuck O'Brien

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Turil Cronburg
Vice Chair Jim Gallagher
Jenifer Kaminsky
Alan Moore
Asher Miller
Ron Newman
Greg Palmer
Secretary Bhupesh Patel

1. **City Report** -
 - There have been no changes of note to the Beacon Street Project
 - The Lowell Street bridge reconstruction project has been bumped up to a 2004 schedule, and construction will begin in the spring. It is likely that the bridge will remain open to non-motorized traffic while being rebuilt as long as possible.
 - The Community Path is proving to be a slow process but is, in fact, moving.
 - The Bicycle Committee should consider talking to the new Mayor's transition team, and provide Curtatone with some priorities that the Committee would like to see happen during his term. The Committee agreed to put together a simple briefing package including the guidelines, a letter, and a copy of the "Somerville by Bicycle" map to give the new Mayor.
2. **Somerville Bike/Ped Coordinator position** - there will be interviews during November and/or December, and the position should be filled by the beginning of January.
3. **Amelia Earhart Dam**: The Committee agreed to endorse a proposal to provide bicycle access to Amelia Earhart Dam, as it fell within our general mission to provide better access for cyclists.
4. **Road rage solutions**: The Committee brainstormed ideas for making roads safer for cyclists who are often verbally harassed and physically threatened by motorists. Some ideas included - better enforcement, "Share the Road" or "Bicyclists Entitled to Full Use of Lane" signs, including bicyclist's rights in Car Driver's ed, including "safe road/sidewalk sharing" info in any mailings that the city might have for all residents, and including "share the road" info with every parking permit the city gives out to motorists.
5. **Super Stop and Shop Plans**: The plans do not currently include a curb cut to allow cyclists to access the store from the Kensington Avenue cul-de-sac.
6. **CVS/Magoun Square**: The bicycle parking facilities in the newly constructed building are in a less than ideal location - they are not visible from the front of the building and are tucked in behind an ATM that faces away from the racks. The Committee should request that at least signs be installed alerting cyclists to the location of the racks.
7. **Mayor Kelly Gay Thanks**: The Bicycle Committee will officially thank the Mayor for all her work and consideration towards making Somerville a better place for cyclists.
8. **Friends of the Community Path**: Alan attended the November meeting and updated the Committee on Path news. The next Friends meeting will be at the Somerville Community Corporation's Conversations Project meeting.
9. **Action Items**:
 - Greg will write a cover letter to Curtatone introducing the Committee and letting him know that we would like to work with him to make Somerville a better and safer place to bicycle.
 - Turil will put together the Guidelines, the mission statement, and the map package for Curtatone.
 - All Committee members should think about priorities for the next year, for potential discussion with Mayor elect Curtatone, and for internal organization for the subcommittees.
 - Ron will write a letter of support for the Amelia Earhart Dam crossing and send it to Turil to print on letterhead.
10. **Meeting Adjourned 8:45pm.**